DRAFT AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium including instructions readable by a computer, which when implemented, cause the computer to classify data comprising the steps of:

    receiving labeled data;

    receiving unlabeled data;

    constructing a first classifier and a second classifier using the labeled data;

    performing uncertainty reduction comprising:

        selecting instances from the unlabeled data that are uncertain with respect to the first classifier; and

        selecting instances from the unlabeled data that are uncertain with respect to the second classifier;

    labeling the instances uncertain to the first classifier using the second classifier to form a first labeled set;

    labeling the instances uncertain to the second classifier using the first classifier to form a second labeled set;

    re-constructing the first classifier and the second classifier using the first labeled set and the second labeled set;

    providing the re-constructed first classifier and the re-constructed second classifier for use in labeling data;

    wherein selecting instances uncertain to the first classifier includes selecting instances of the unlabeled data as a function of uncertainty;

    wherein selecting instances of the unlabeled data as a function of uncertainty comprises calculating at least one value of uncertainty used to select the instances uncertain to the first classifier; ~~and~~

    wherein selecting instances uncertain to the first classifier includes selecting instances having a value of uncertainty that is compared to a predetermined threshold; and

    <u>wherein selecting instances having a value of uncertainly includes selecting instances having a value of uncertainty below the predetermined threshold.</u>

-2-

2. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein receiving labeled data includes receiving data assigned to classes and wherein receiving unlabeled data includes receiving data capable of being assigned to classes.

3. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 2, and further comprising reconstructing the first and second classifiers using at least the first labeled set.

4. (cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim1, wherein selecting instances as a function of uncertainty includes calculating probabilities.

6. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 5, wherein calculating probabilities includes calculating probabilities that the first classifier is unable to label some instances of the unlabeled data.

7. (cancelled)

8. (cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 1, and further comprising exchanging information between the first labeled and the second labeled set to form at least one shared set.

-3-

12. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 11, and further comprising reconstructing the first and second classifiers using the at least one shared set.

13. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein labeling the instances uncertain to the first classifier includes assigning instances in the first labeled set to a first set of classes, and wherein labeling the instances uncertain to the second classifier includes assigning instances in the second labeled set to a second set of classes.

14. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 13, wherein the first set of classes and the second set of classes are the same.

15. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 13, wherein the first set of classes and the second set of classes are different.

16. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 13, wherein the first set of classes and the second set of classes are mutually exclusive.

17. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 13, wherein the first set of classes and the second set of classes overlap by having classes in common.

18. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 1, and further comprising selecting unlabeled data that is certain with respect to the first classifier.

19. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 18, wherein selecting certain unlabeled data includes selecting the most certain unlabeled data with respect to the first classifier.

-4-

20. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 18, wherein selecting instances uncertain to the first classifier includes selecting data in the certain data.

21. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 18, wherein selecting instances uncertain to the first classifier includes selecting data not in the certain unlabeled data.

22. (Previously Presented) A computer readable storage medium including instructions readable by a computer, which when implemented, cause the computer to classify data comprising the steps of:

    constructing a first classifier and a second classifier using received labeled instances;

    using the first classifier to select unlabeled instances that are certain with respect to the first classifier;

    selecting instances uncertain with respect to the second classifier from among the instances certain with respect to the first classifier to form a first set of unlabeled instances;

    using the second classifier to select unlabeled instances that are certain with respect to the second classifier;

    selecting instances uncertain with respect to the first classifier from among the instances certain with respect to the second classifier to form a second set of unlabeled instances;

    re-constructing the first classifier and the second classifier using the first set of unlabeled instances and the second set of unlabeled instances;

    providing the re-constructed first classifier and the re-constructed second classifier for labeling textual data to ascertain a meaning of the textual data'

    labeling the first set of unlabeled instances using the first classifier to form a first labeled set;

    labeling the second set of unlabeled instances using the second classifier to form a second labeled set;

-5-

adding the first labeled set and the second labeled set to the received labeled instances to
form an augmented set; and
further reconstructing the first classifier and the second classifier using the augmented set.

23. (cancelled)

24. (cancelled)

25. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 22, wherein reconstructing the first and the second classifiers includes iteratively reconstructing the first and the second classifiers for each class of unlabeled instances.

26. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 22 wherein the modified first classifier and the modified second classifier are provided to perform one of web page classification, bilingual bootstrapping and news article classification.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

-6-

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Cancelled)